



DMV Initiative to Help Veterans Get Jobs

In announcing the "Experience Counts" campaign, Governor Cuomo called on the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to make it easier and less costly for military members who have gained experience driving trucks and heavy equipment during their military service to obtain a New York commercial driver license by waiving the road test requirement.

The waiver is now available for up to 90 days after discharge or for active duty military and active duty New York National Guard members that currently hold a valid driver license. Applicants must be regularly employed, or have been regularly employed, within the last 90 days in a military position requiring operation of a commercial motor vehicle, and also have operated a vehicle that is similar to a civilian commercial vehicle for at least two years immediately preceding discharge from the military. Applicants must also certify that they have not had their license suspended, revoked, cancelled or denied in the last four years.

Applicants must fill out a "CDL Certification for Military Waiver of Skills Test" form (CDL-102) which is available at any DMV office or online at <http://www.dmv.ny.gov/forms/cdl102.pdf>. Applicants must still pass a written test and pay the written test fee, but the \$40 road test fee will also be waived by completing the certification.

Thousands of Veterans Eligible for Military Medical Disability Rating Review

- In 2009, the Physical Disability Board of Review (PDBR) was created by Congress to address what were seen as inconsistencies in veterans' military disability ratings
- To be eligible for a review, veterans must have been discharged between 9/11/01 and 12/31/09 and have a current military rating of 20% or less
- While the Pentagon plans to contact the 77,000 eligible veterans, to date, only 3,000 veterans have applied. Almost half of the 3,000 applicants have had their ratings raised to 30 percent or more
- A 30 percent or higher rating can qualify a veteran for lifetime retirement pay, health care and many other benefits
- If you know a veteran who was medically separated with a low disability rating or was discharged between Sept 2001 and Dec 2009, please pass the word along!
- For more information about the PDBR and its review process, log on to www.health.mil/PDBR